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UNCLAS WELLINGTON 000718

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/TRA/OTP, S/CT AND EAP/ANP
SYDNEY FOR TSA REPRESENTATIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAIR](#) [PTER](#) [NZ](#)

SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND OFFERS INFORMATION ON PASSENGER-SCREENING SYSTEM

¶11. This is an action request; please see Paragraph 3.

¶12. In response to the Department of Homeland Security's intent to expand the Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS), the New Zealand government has offered to provide the U.S. government with information and a demonstration on the Australian-developed Advanced Passenger Processing system. New Zealand uses the system, which allows for passengers to be screened at the time of check-in, and believes it would benefit U.S. border security without posing a heavy burden on air carriers.

¶13. Action requested: Would TSA be interested in receiving information and a demonstration on the Advanced Passenger Processing system? Post would be grateful for guidance on how to respond to the New Zealand government's offer.

¶14. Meanwhile, the New Zealand government intends to join a demarche to the State Department expressing concern about the expansion of APIS to require air carriers to collect information from passengers not already contained in their machine-readable passports. New Zealand is worried about the impact on airline operations. New Zealand also would be concerned should the Department of Homeland Security decide to go through with its previous plan to require airlines to submit data on passengers to U.S. Customs and Border Protection at least an hour before departure.

BURNETT